

- HERGÉ -
★
THE ADVENTURES OF
TINTIN

THE BLUE LOTUS



MAGNET

THE BLUE LOTUS

藍蓮花

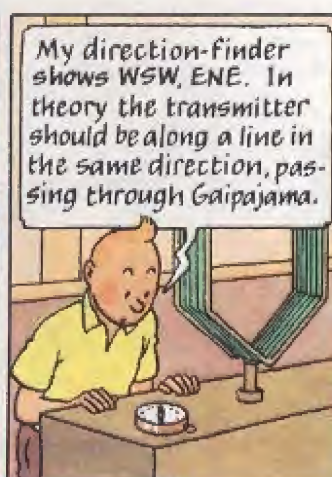
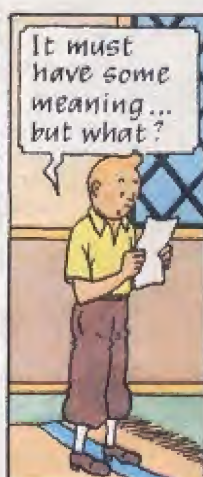
TINTIN AND SNOWY are in India, guests of the Maharaja of Gaipajama, enjoying a well-earned rest. The evil gang of international drug-smugglers, encountered in *Cigars of the Pharaoh*, has been smashed and its members are behind bars. With one exception. Only the mysterious gang-leader is

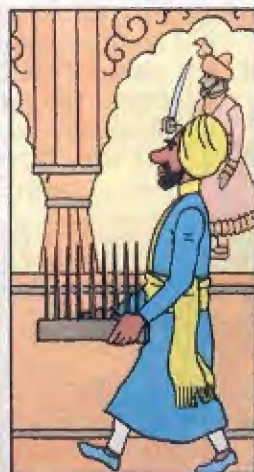
unaccounted for: he disappeared over a cliff.

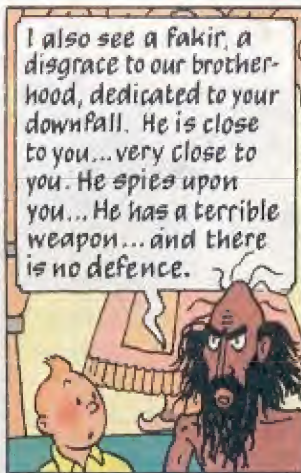
But questions have still to be answered. What of the terrible Rajajiah juice, the 'poison of madness'? Where were the shipments of opium going, hidden in the false cigars? And who really was the master-mind behind the operation?

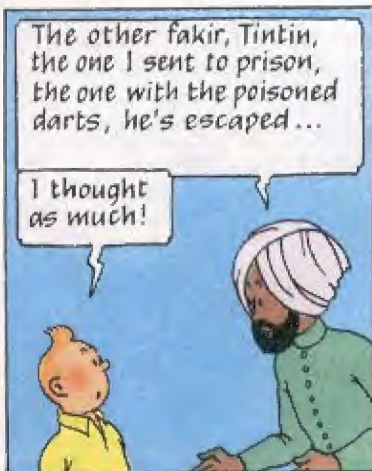


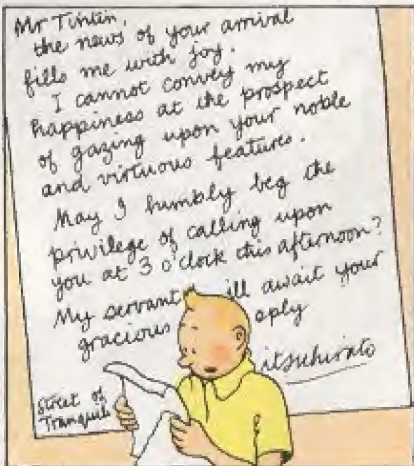
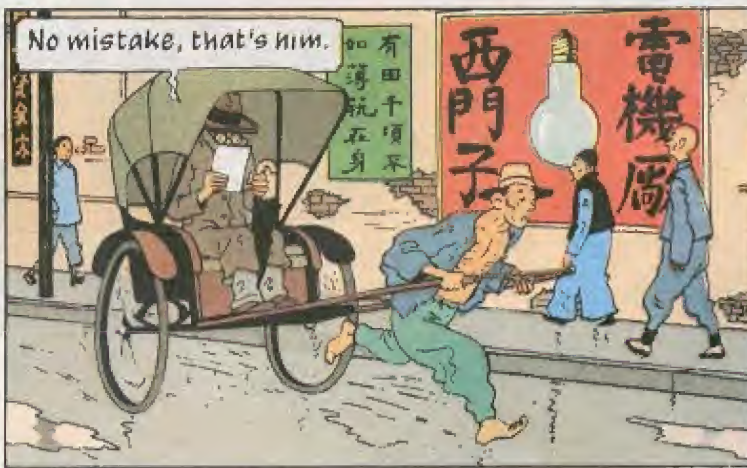
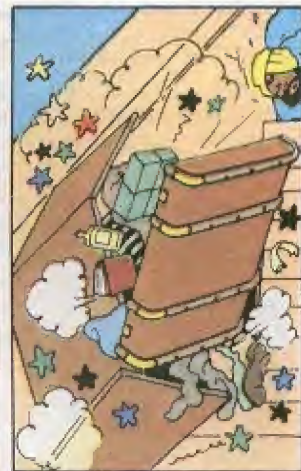
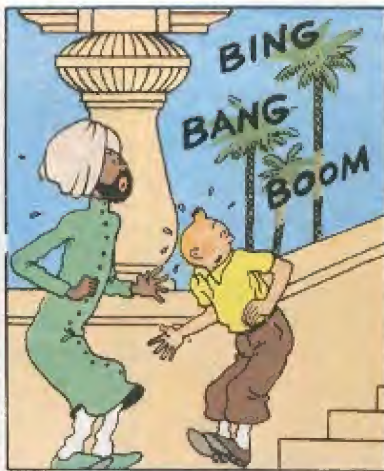
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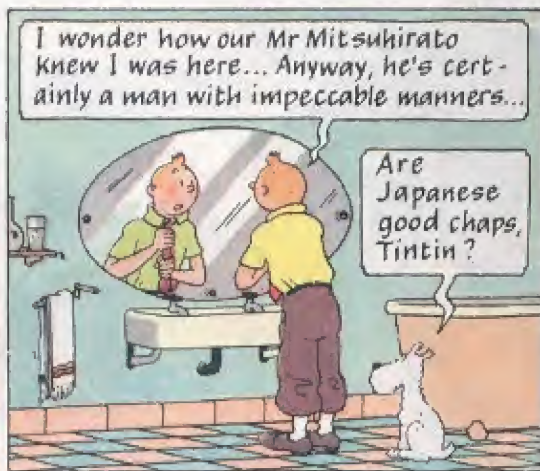




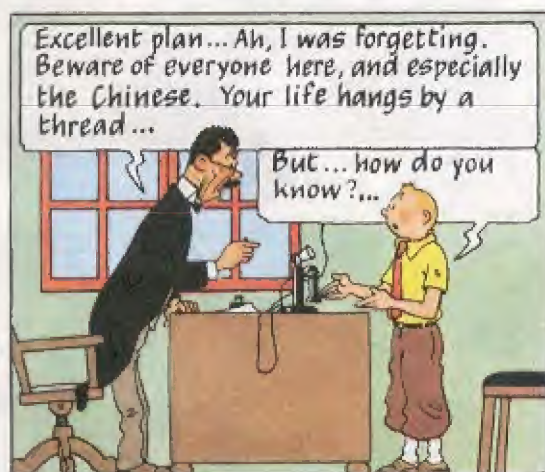
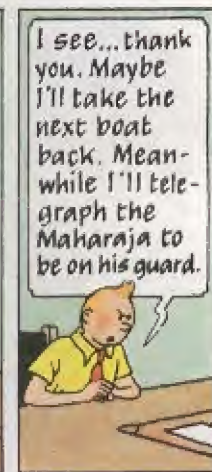
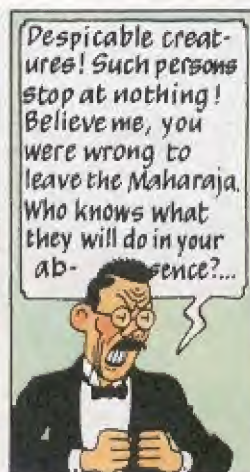
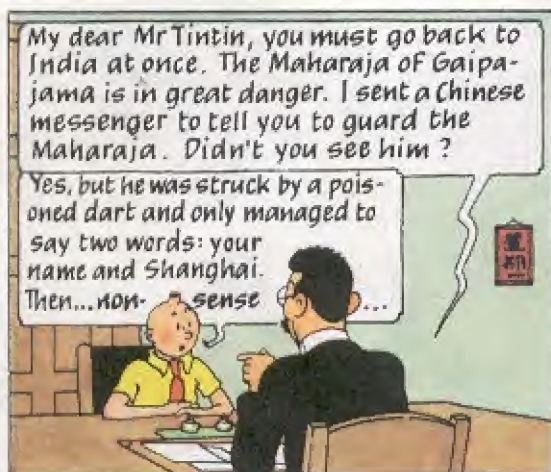


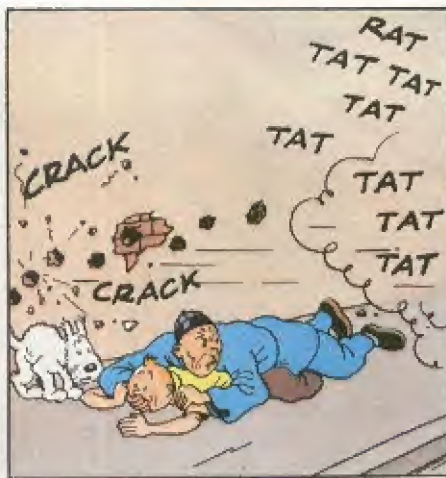


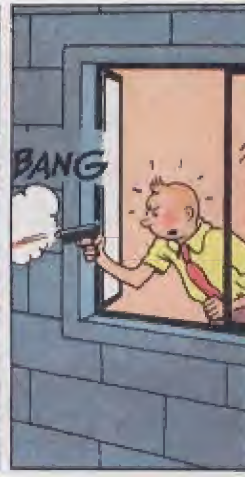


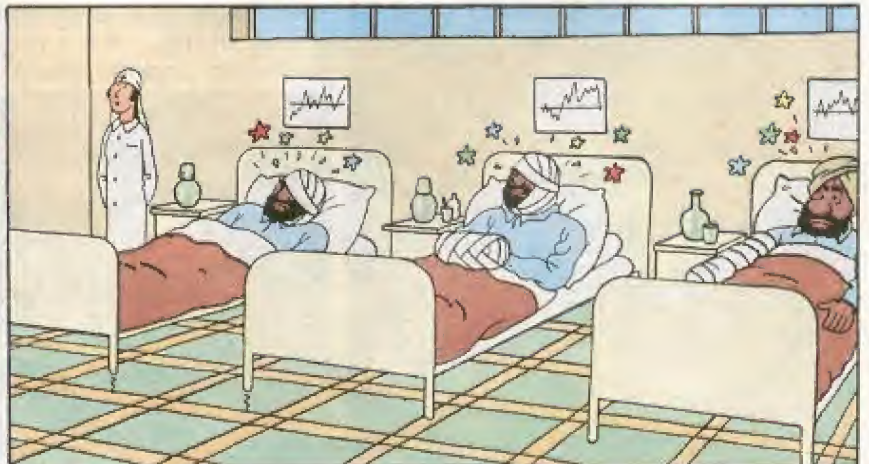
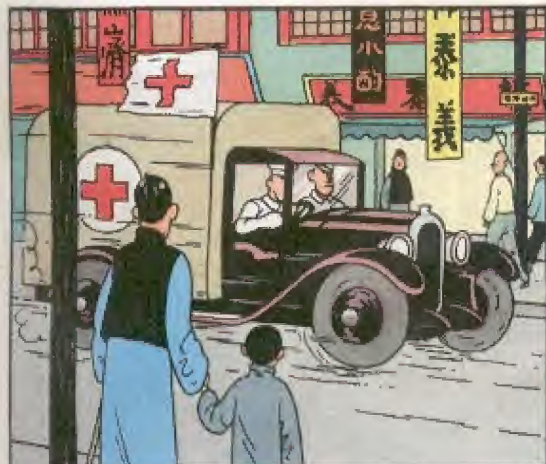
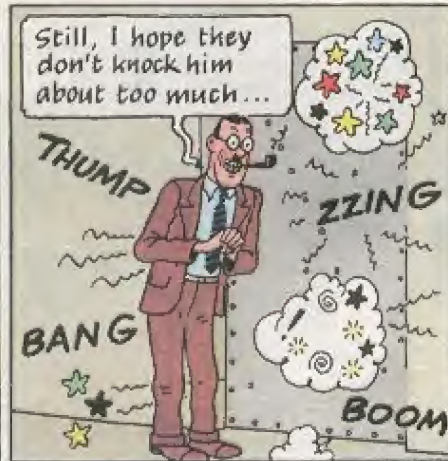
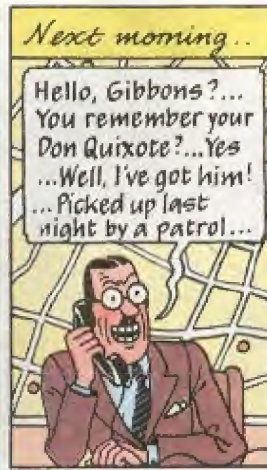


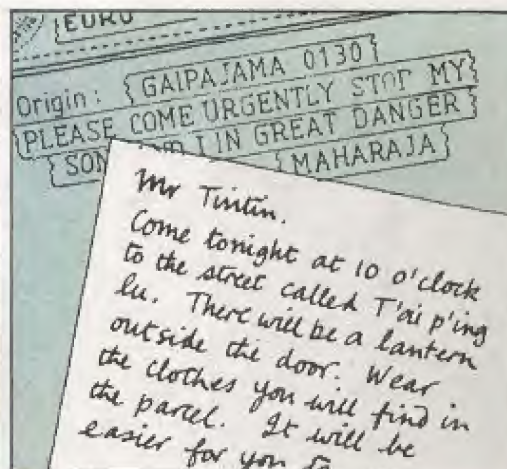
















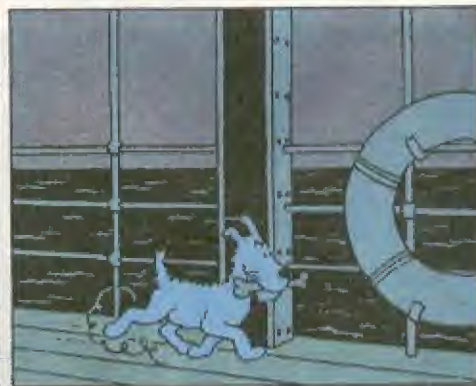
That night...

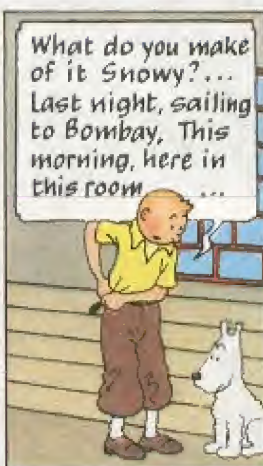
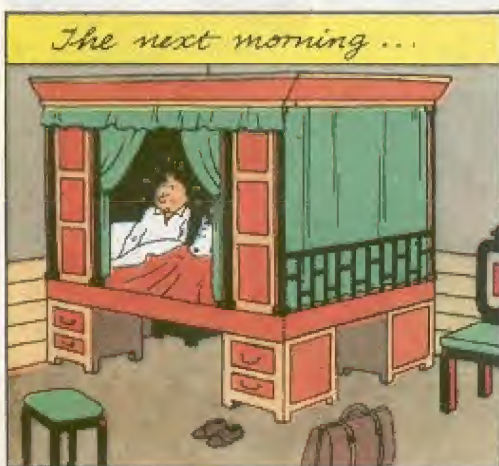
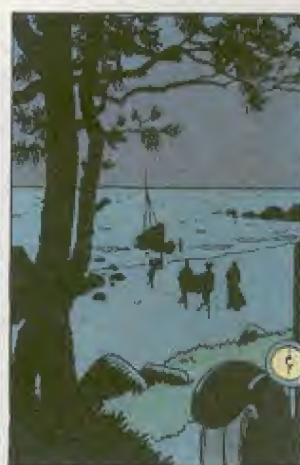
Are you coming Snowy?
Let's take a stroll
round the deck...

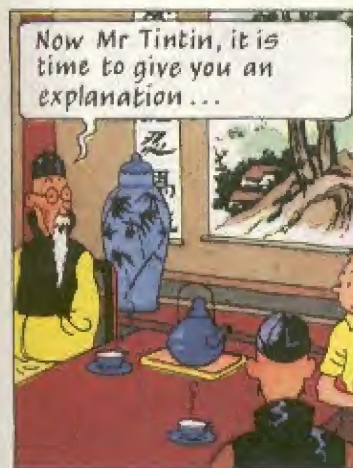
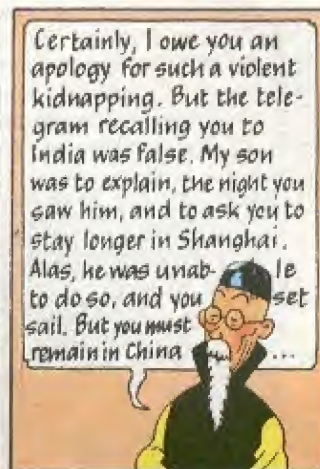
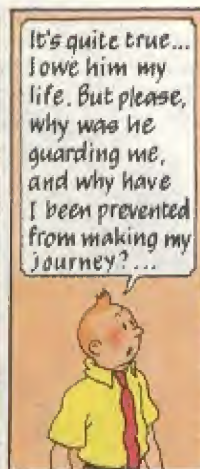
Allright. I'll
catch you up...

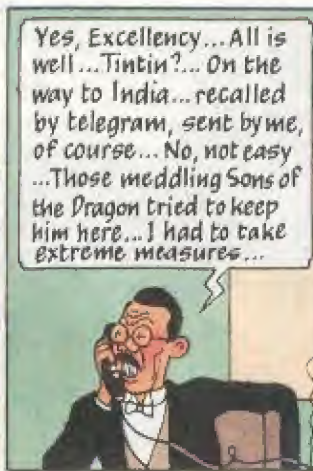


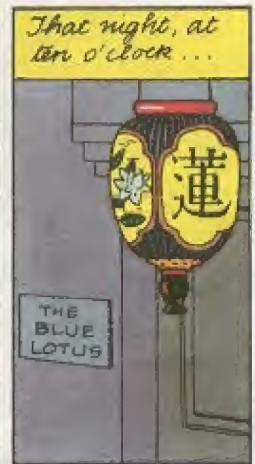
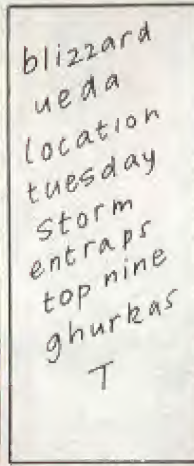
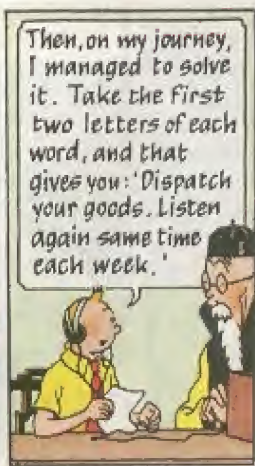
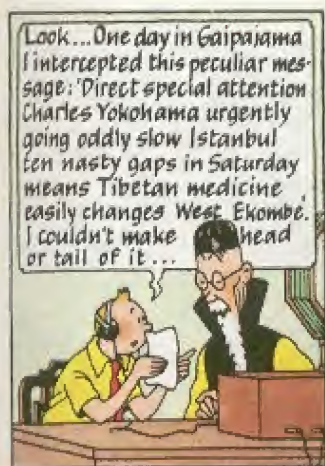
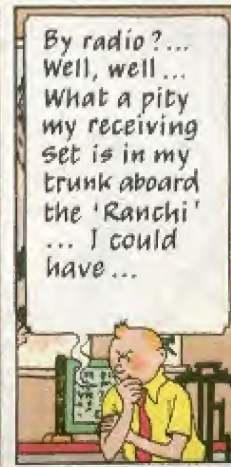
There! It's done!... You haven't
used too much chloroform, have you?



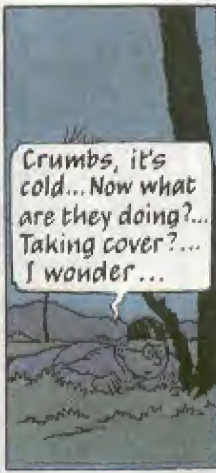


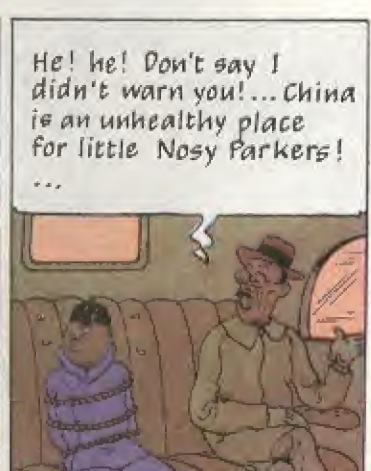
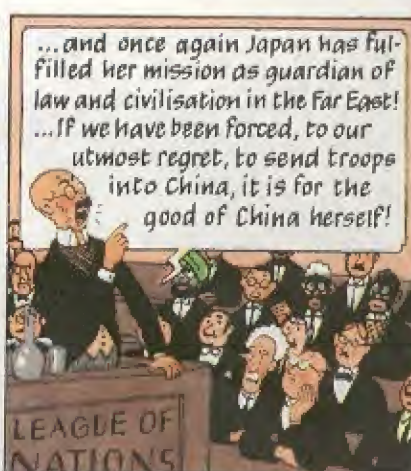
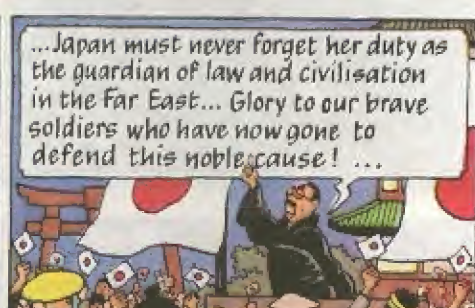
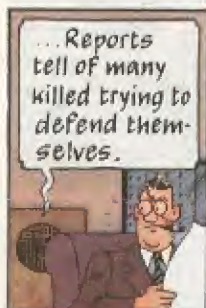
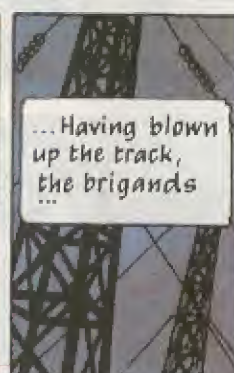


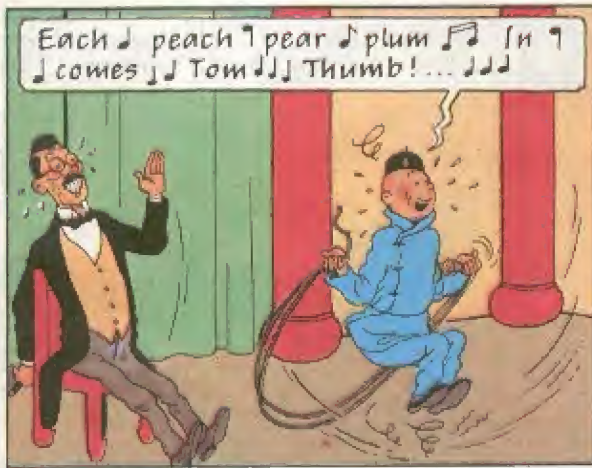
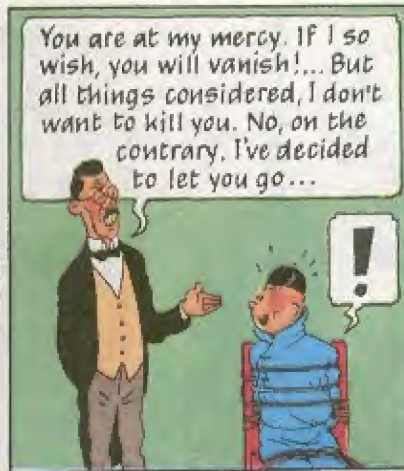
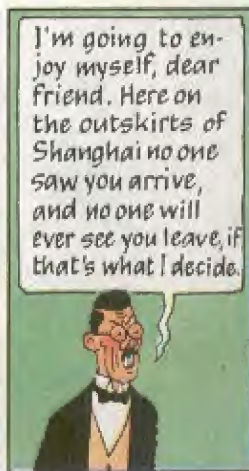




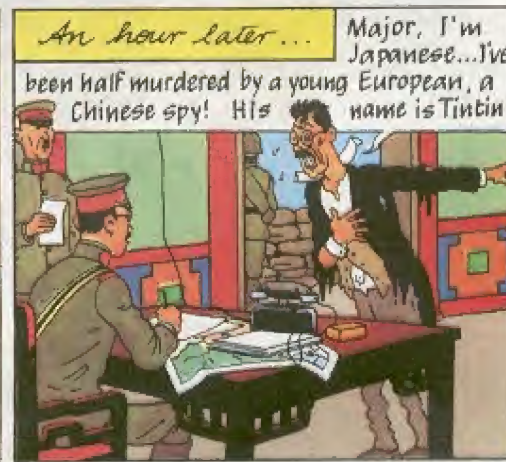


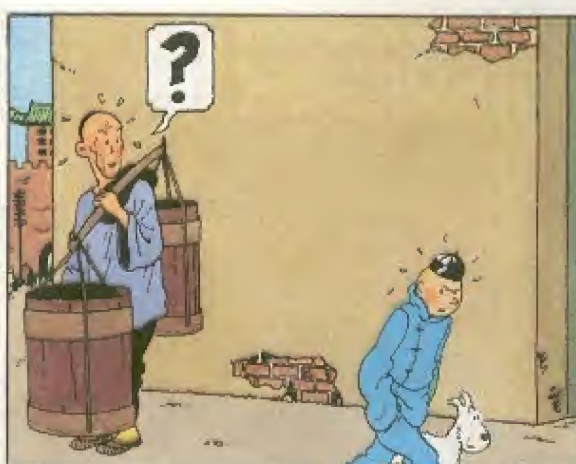


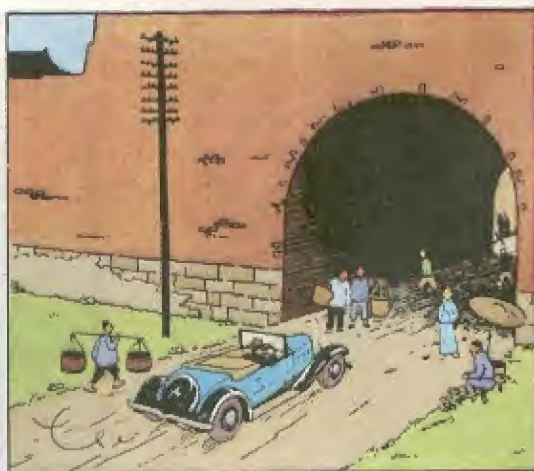


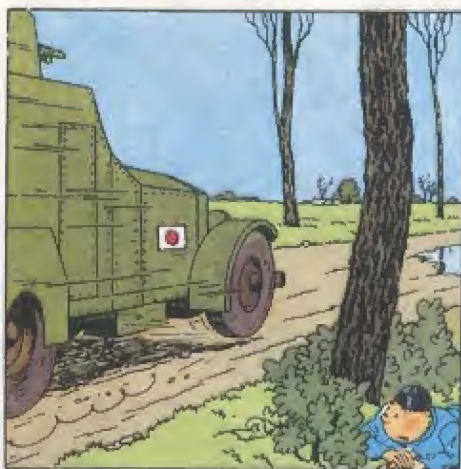
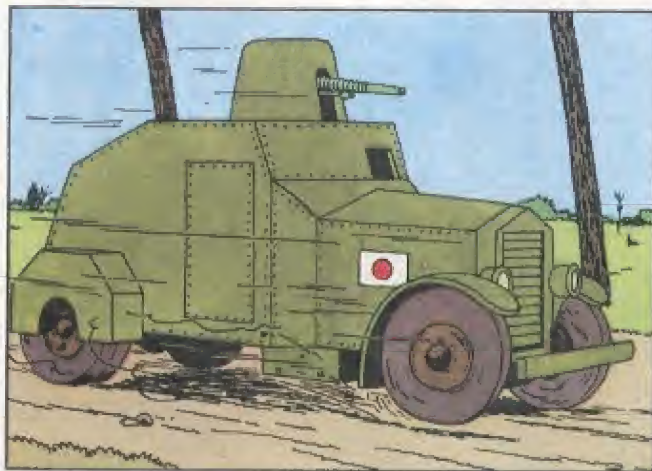
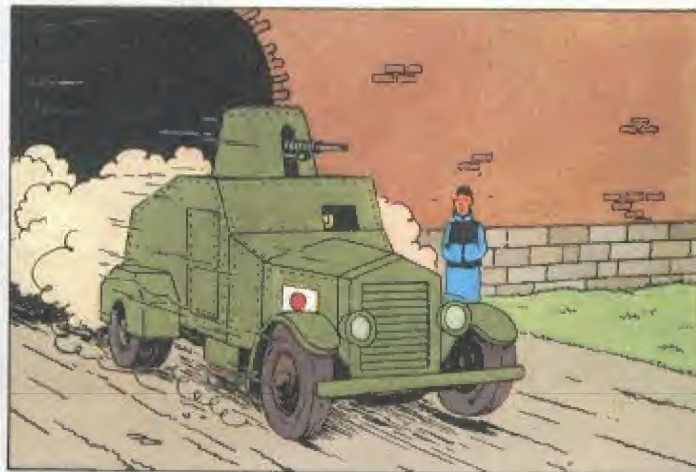














At last!... I thought I'd never see you again!



You lied!... We found no trace of Tintin... You will be detained... And mark my words: no one plays the fool with the military authority!...

But... but... I...



Just let me get out of here and I'll show him what I'm made of, the little swine!



So this is the mysterious poison that's done so much damage... And if it hadn't been for your servant I'd have been a victim, too...



AYAH! OHO! YOURP!



Our son is having another fit of madness, Wang. Please, try to calm him!



Poor, poor, Mrs Wang...



If only someone could do something to cure his madness, but that's impossible...



Unless... yes, but it's only a chance in a million...



And if I do that, I'll have to get back through the Japanese lines...



Don't cry, Mrs Wang... Tomorrow morning I'll go to Shanghai and I'll have that poison analysed. Who knows, perhaps we may find a cure for your son's madness.



Next morning...

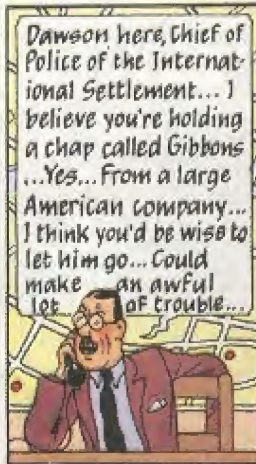


I fear for you. Don't forget there is a price on your head!

Don't be afraid... If I can manage to reach the International Settlement, I'll be safe. They can't do anything to me there...



Hello?... Yes, speaking... To whom have I the honour...



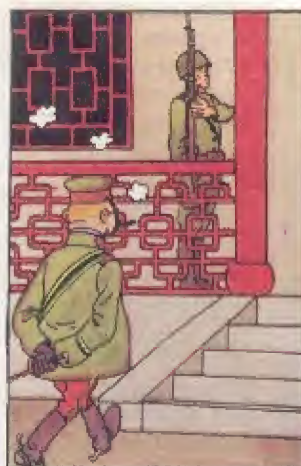
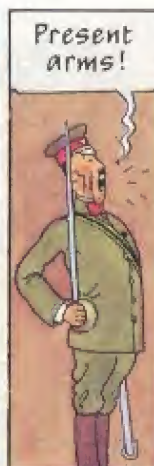
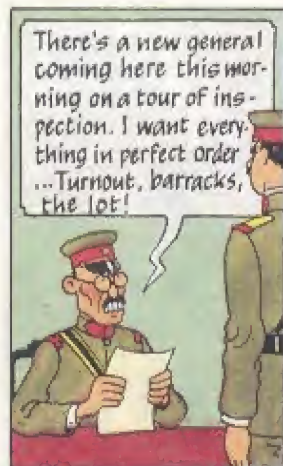
Dawson here, Chief of Police of the International Settlement... I believe you're holding a chap called Gibbons... Yes... From a large American company... I think you'd be wise to let him go... Could make an awful lot of trouble...



Agreed, but on one condition... We're looking for a spy, name of Tintin. If he takes refuge in the International Settlement, you'll hand him over...



It's a deal, Major... You can count on me!





Full of charm, isn't he? And that's our new general!



Major, there's a little man who insists upon seeing you. He claims to be the general.

Bring him in. I'll give him 'general'!



But... but the general has just left!



And I'm telling you, block-head, that I'm General Haranochi!... I was attacked on the road by a young Chinese who stripped me of my uniform!!...



No one about?... Good!



Here we go! ...



Two ...



One ...



And three!



Now let's release my false stomach... All right, Snowy?



Now to the International Settlement... And make it snappy!



All's well. We made it!



Halt!... Your papers!



My identity papers? ...I'm afraid I haven't got them with me... But my name's Tintin and I ...



Sorry!... Nothing doing!

But look! You can see I'm a European...

Nothing doing!



What's the problem?

The boy hasn't any papers, sir...

Please...

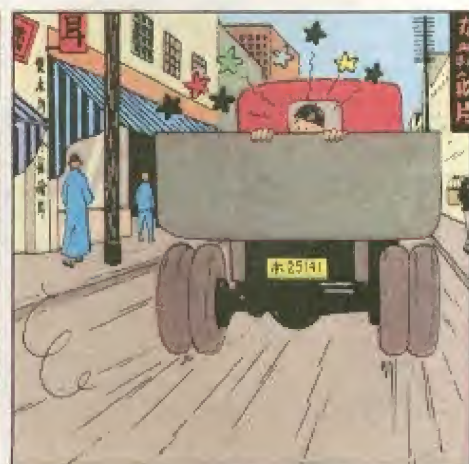
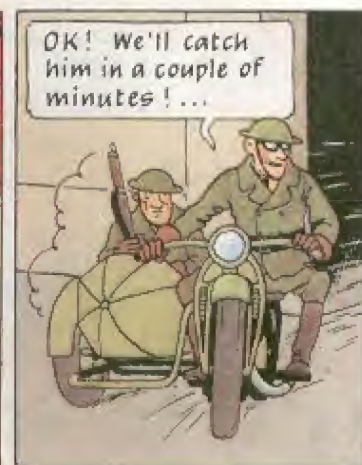


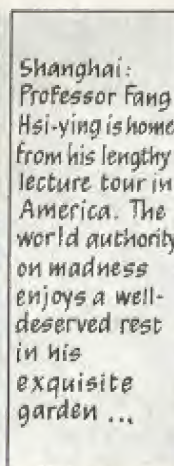
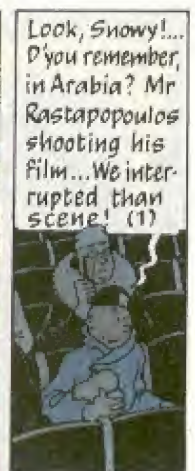
No use arguing, sonny. Must have proper papers to enter the Settlement...

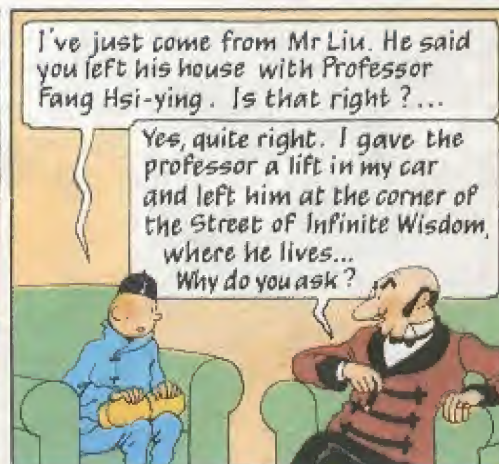
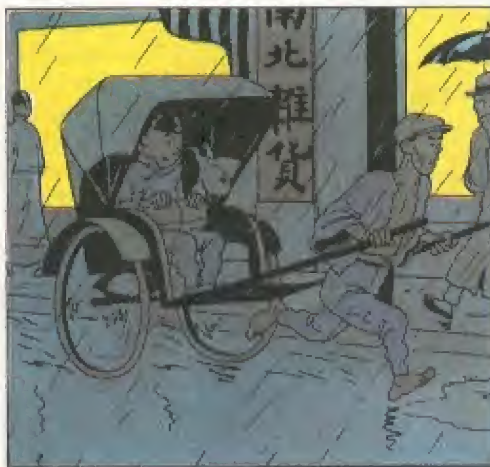


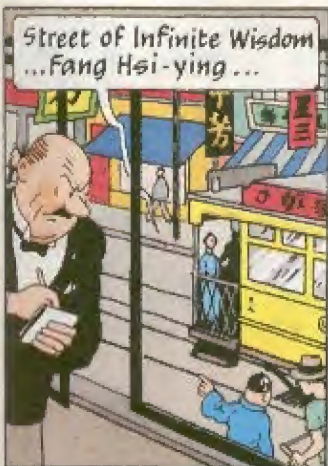
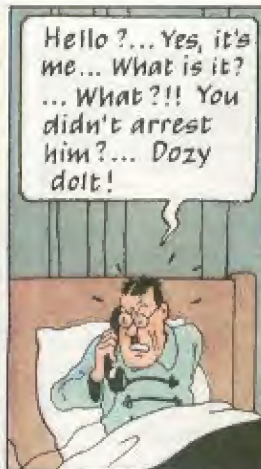
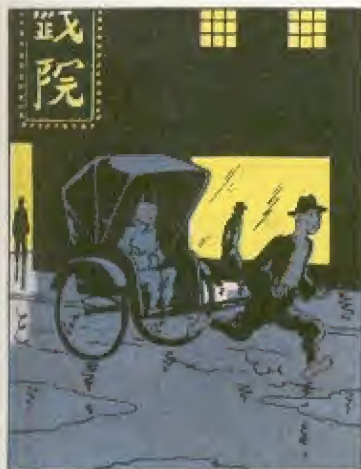
Now what?... Crumbs! A Japanese patrol! I must get in. IF I don't...

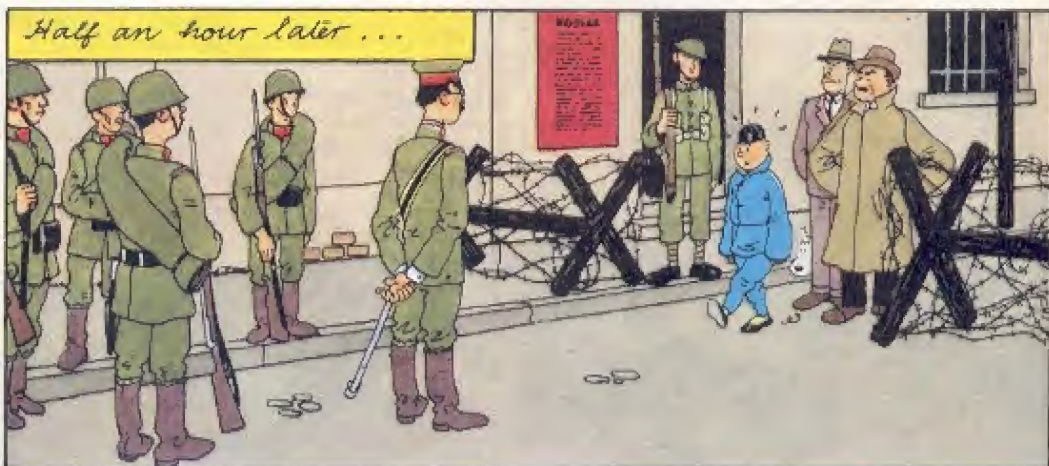
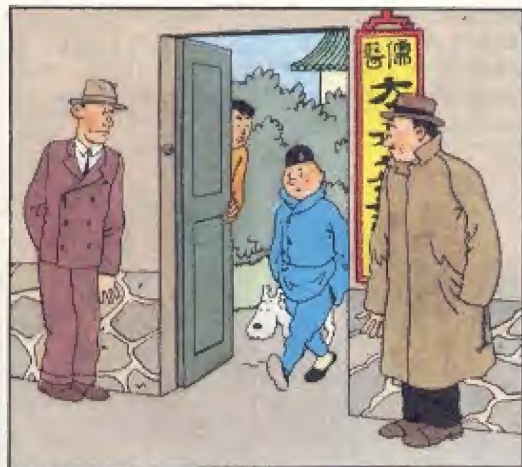
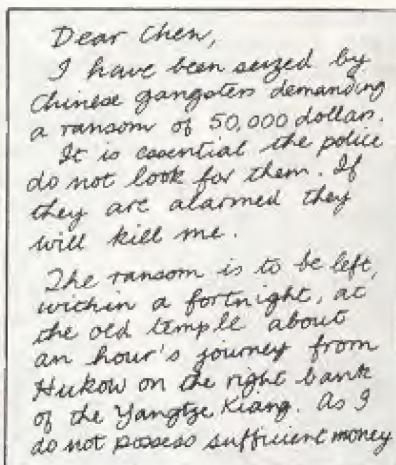


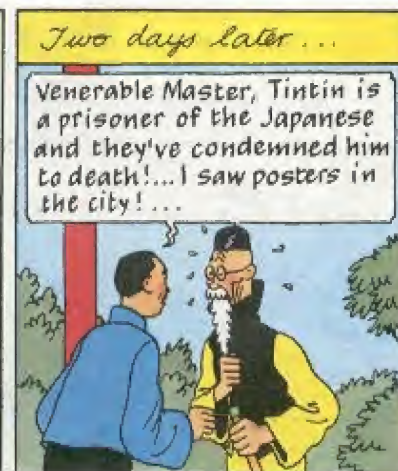












日本軍第五師團捕虜報告

一、捕虜姓名：TINTIN
二、捕虜年齡：30歲
三、捕虜籍貫：比利時
四、捕虜職業：記者
五、捕虜被俘經過：於本月十日，在華北某處，被第五師團某部俘獲。當時該犯正欲潛逃，被我官兵發現，遂行捕獲。現已解送本師團司令部，正由該部審理中。

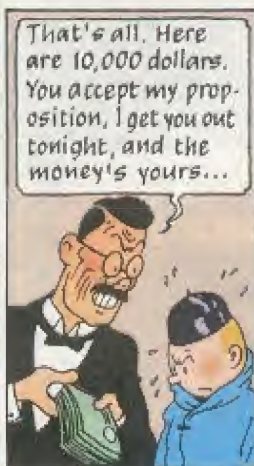
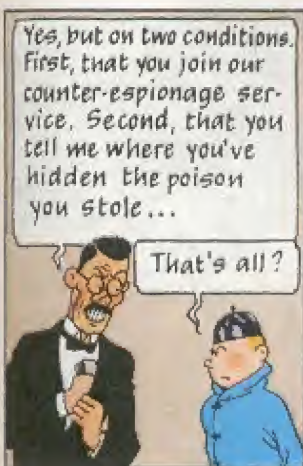
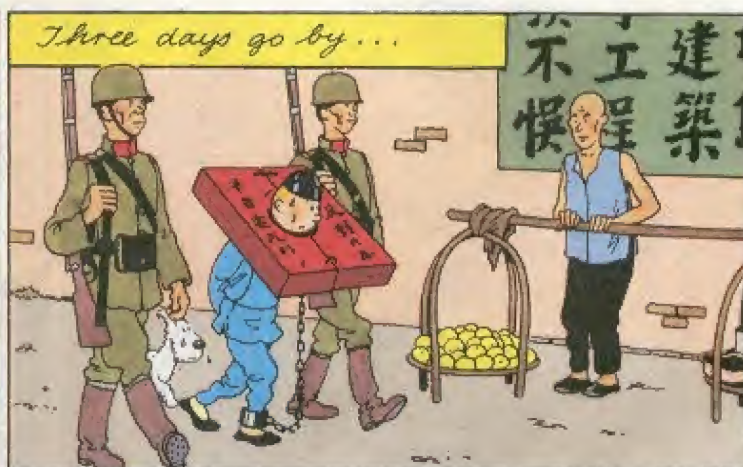
日本軍第五師團司令部

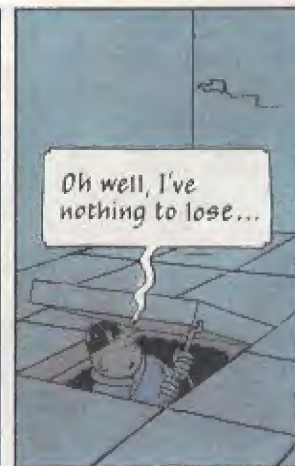
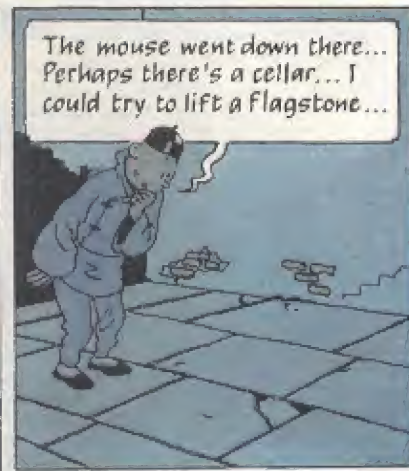
NOTICE

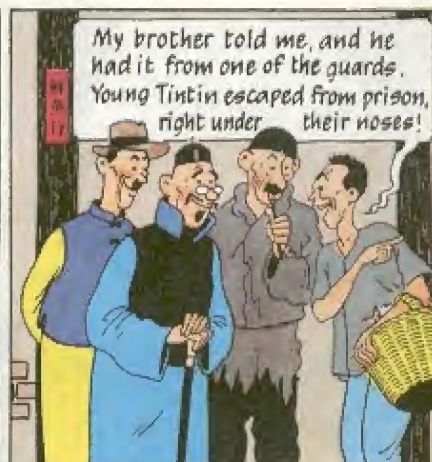
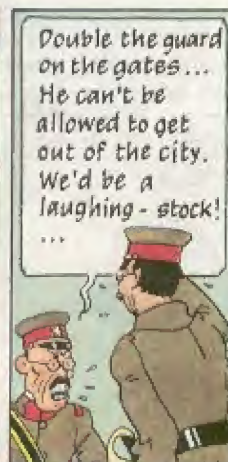
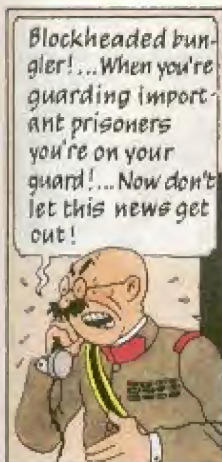
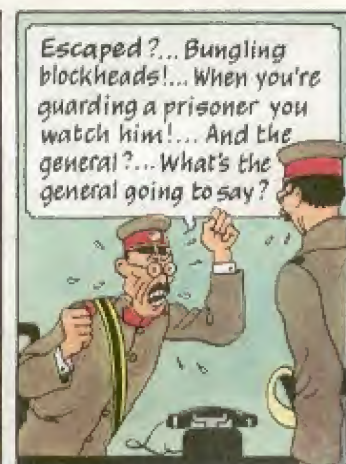
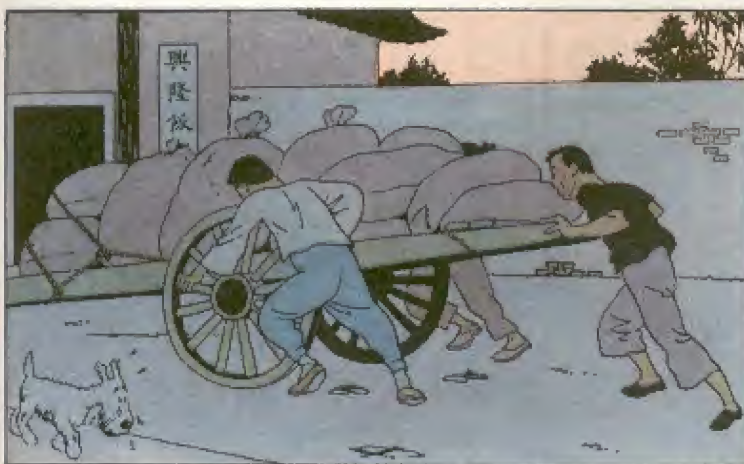
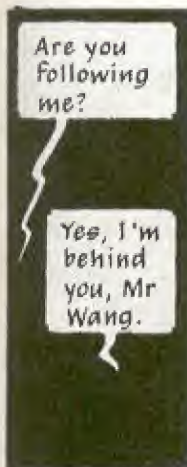
The Council of War of the Fifth Army of Occupation have CONDEMNED TO DEATH the prisoner TINTIN, found guilty of:

1. Espionage
2. Attempted murder of a Japanese
3. Assaulting a senior officer
4. Illegally wearing a uniform and medals

For three days preceding the execution the condemned man will wear the tablet and be paraded through the streets of the city as a warning to the population.









Wait! ... What's inside those sacks?

It's rice, Lieutenant.

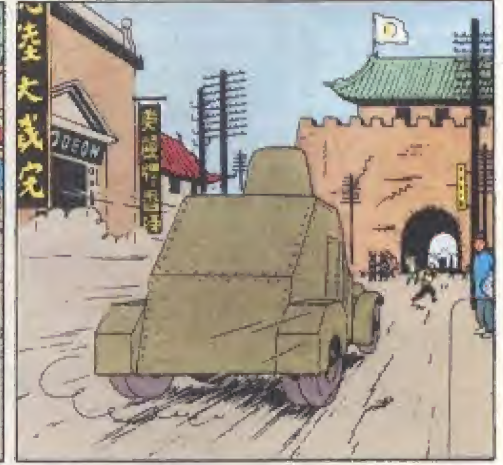
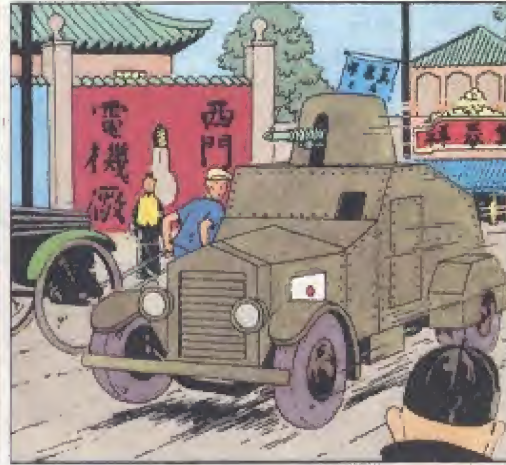


We'll see about that! Run your bayonet through each sack!



All done, Lieutenant!

You can go!



Have you seen a cart go past with sacks on it, pushed by three Chinese?

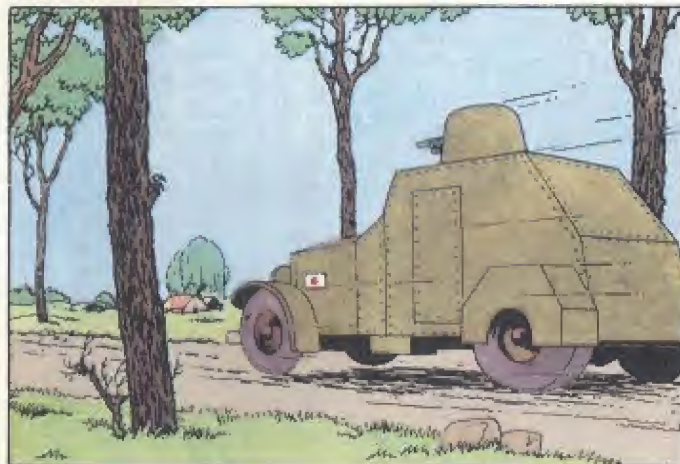
Yes, I saw it. Why?



They've made a fool of you, Lieutenant! ... Tintin was hidden in one of those sacks!

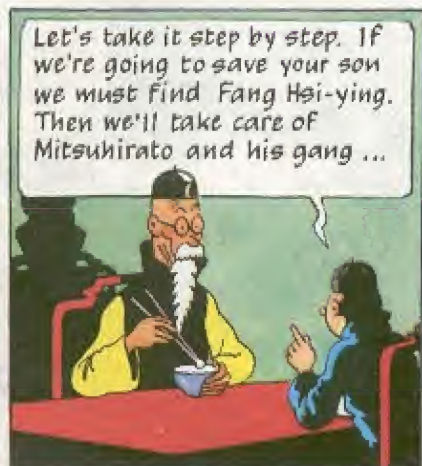
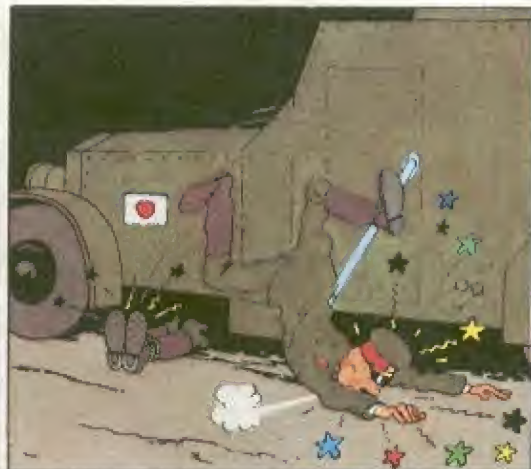


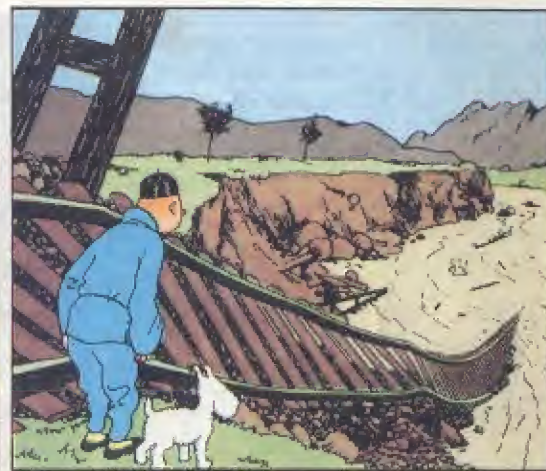
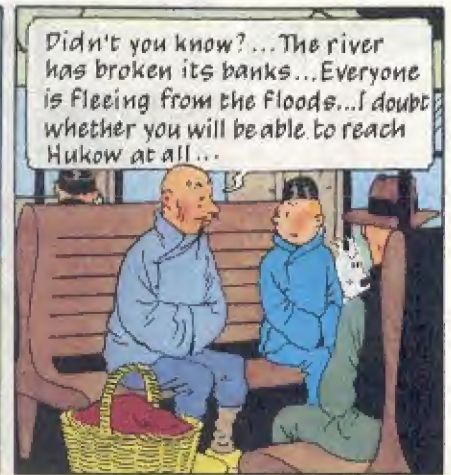
Now I'm in trouble! ... But I don't understand ... We bayoneted every sack ...



Sergeant-major, the sentry guarding the armoured cars has disappeared.









He's alive!

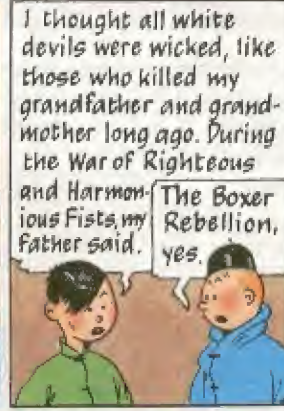


That's better, eh? You almost swallowed half the river!... What's your name?... I'm Tintin...



I am Chang Chong-chen... But ... why did you save my life?

?



I thought all white devils were wicked, like those who killed my grandfather and grandmother long ago. During the War of Righteous and Harmonious Fists, my father said, The Boxer Rebellion, yes.



But Chang, all white men aren't wicked. You see, different peoples don't know enough about each other. Lots of Europeans still believe...



... that all Chinese are cunning and cruel and wear pig-tails, are always inventing tortures, and eating rotten eggs and swallows' nests...



The same stupid Europeans are quite convinced that all Chinese have tiny feet, and even now little Chinese girls suffer agonies with bandages...



... designed to prevent their feet developing normally. They're even convinced that Chinese rivers are full of unwanted babies, thrown in when they are born.



So you see Chang, that's what lots of people believe about China!

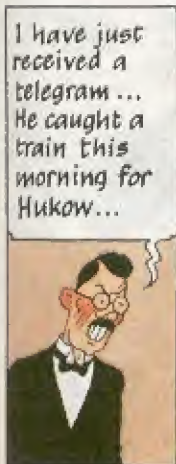
They must be crazy people in your country!!



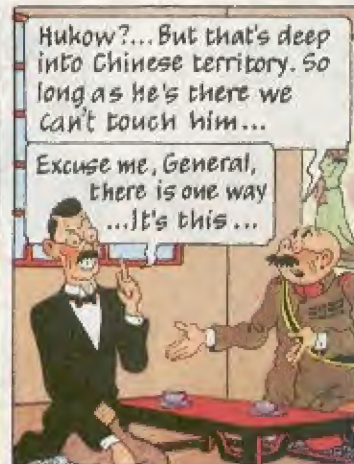
Meanwhile...

I have news for you, General, about Tintin...

You know where he is?



I have just received a telegram ... He caught a train this morning for Hukow...



Hukow?... But that's deep into Chinese territory. So long as he's there we can't touch him...

Excuse me, General, there is one way ... It's this ...



Now, Chang, what are you going to do?

My parents are lost... I've nowhere to go... Couldn't I come with you?...



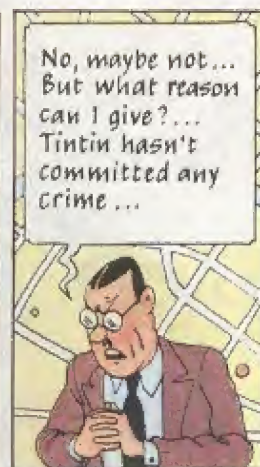
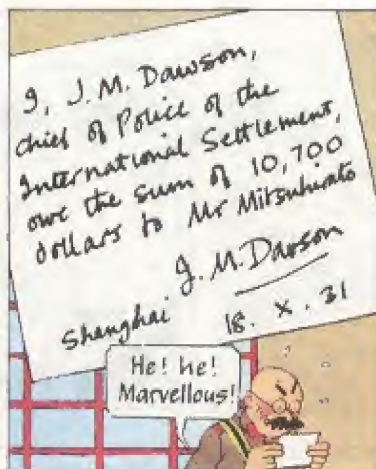
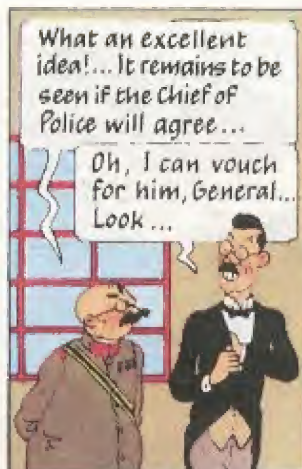
It's just... I may be running into great danger...

But two of us would be far stronger...



OK, then!... OFF to Hukow!

I know a short cut...

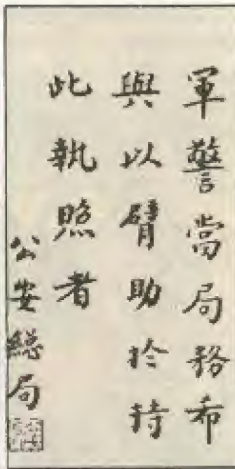




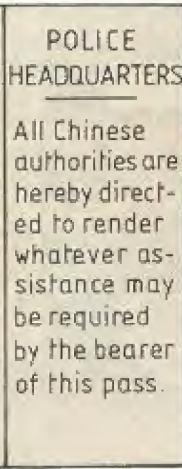
Of course... What greater happiness! My friend's son under my humble roof...



You already have travel permits. This is a safe-conduct from the Chinese authorities. It will facilitate your mission...



軍警當局務布
與以臂助於持
此執照者
公安總局



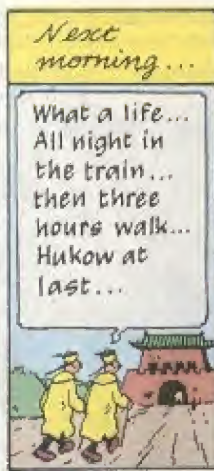
POLICE HEADQUARTERS
All Chinese authorities are hereby directed to render whatever assistance may be required by the bearer of this pass.



A rotten job!
Just our luck!... Ordered to arrest a friend!



There's a train later this evening. That gives us time to get ourselves ready...



Next morning...

What a life... All night in the train... then three hours walk... Hukow at last...



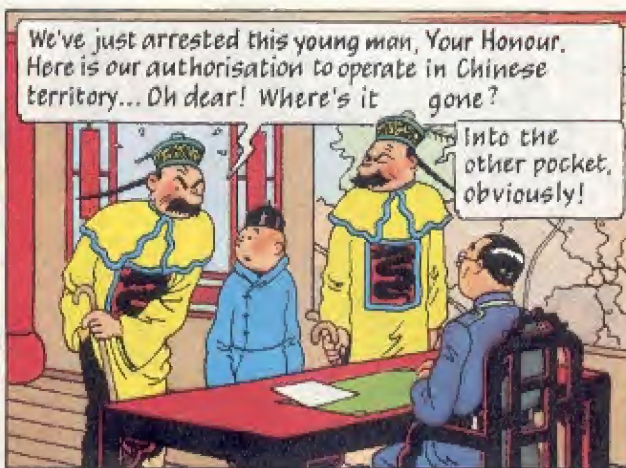
Just as well we came in disguise... Precisely!

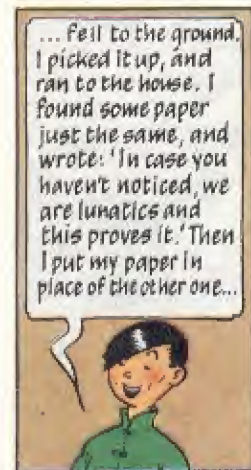
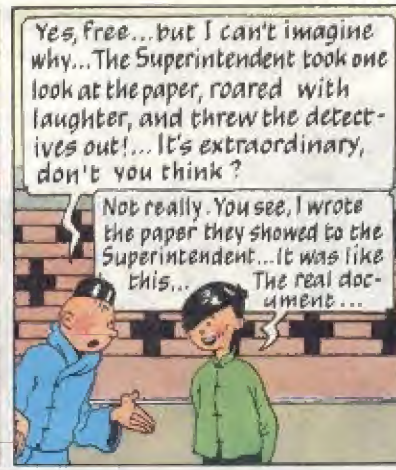
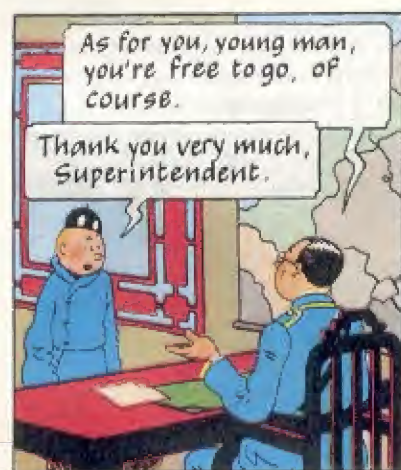


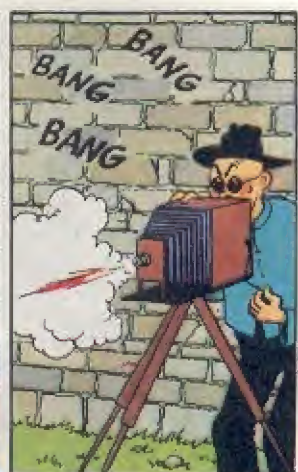
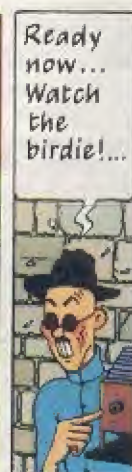
Imagine the sensation we'd have caused, coming to a place like this in European clothes...

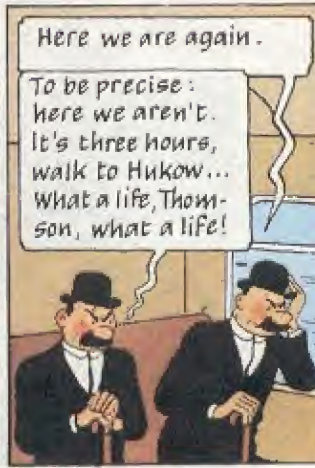
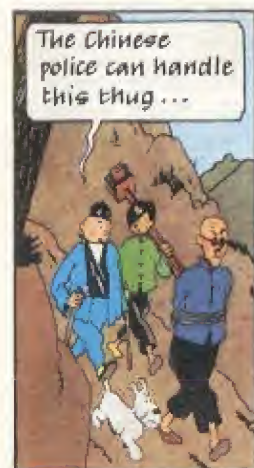
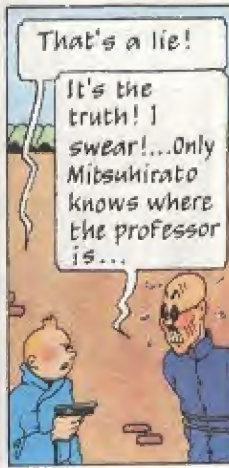
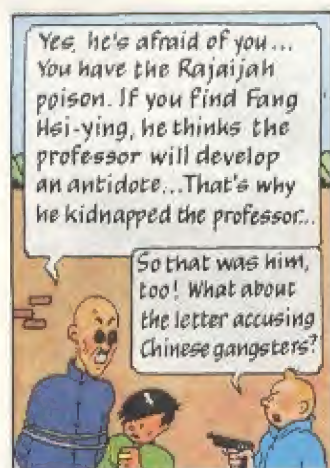
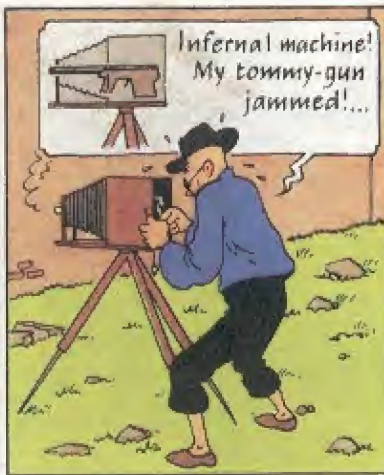


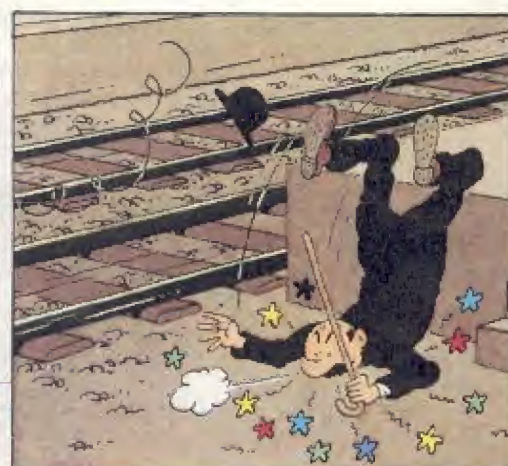
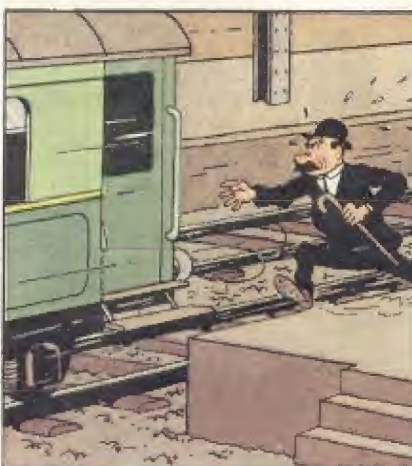
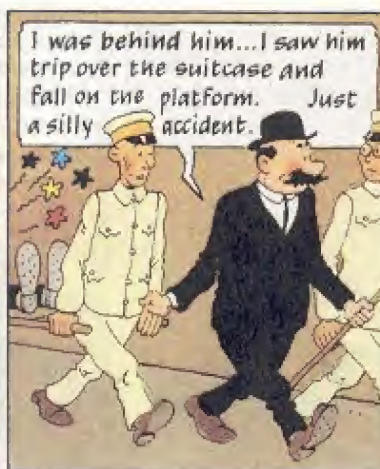
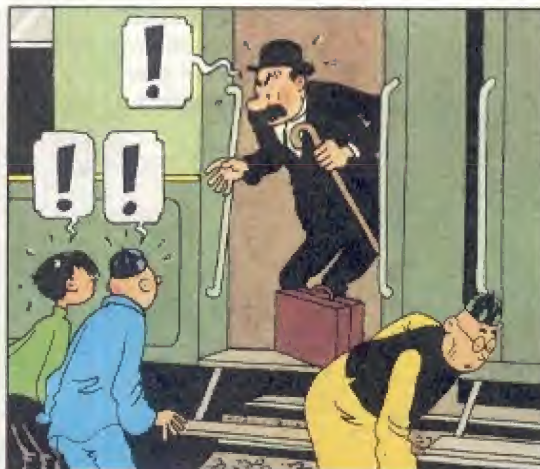
Don't look now, but something tells me we're being followed...











Next morning...

That's the last of the passengers... and still no sign of Tintin...



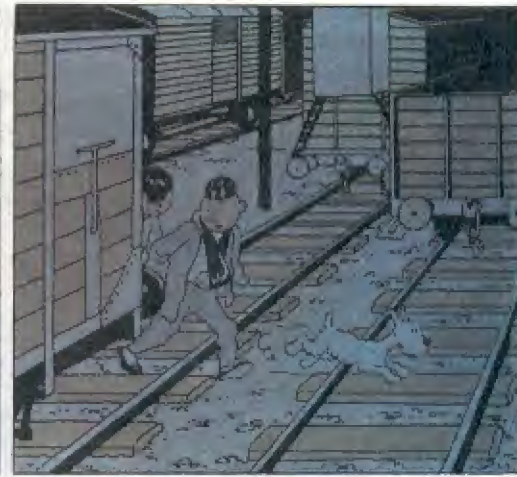
No luck, chief... He wasn't on the train. I reckon he hopped off en route...



Infuriating! Wretched little brat! ...Always outwits us at the last minute!



It's dark now... We can risk it...



Good thing we jumped when the train slowed outside the station. I'm sure someone would have been waiting at the bar...



Mr Mitsuhirato? ...Yes, it's me... I'm afraid not... slipped through our fingers!... Yes, I'm as sorry as you are... What do you expect? I did my best...



Policemen!... I suppose I'll have to do it myself, for the umpteenth time!



Come in!



Master, Tintin is in Shanghai!... I saw him with a Chinese boy. They got into a taxi, but I couldn't hear the address they gave the driver...



Pity!... Listen, Yamato... Get busy... Try to discover where he's gone to ground, and who's hiding him. Understand?



The gods be praised! We meet again!... You must rest for a few days... Give your wound a chance to heal...

I will... Then we must deal with Mitsuhirato!



A week later...

You're sure it doesn't hurt any more?

Not a bit, Chang... Look, all back to normal...



That night

There's Mitsuhirato's house. While I get inside, you keep guard...

OK...

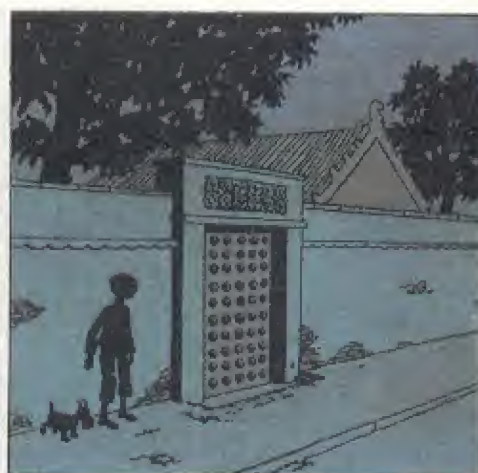


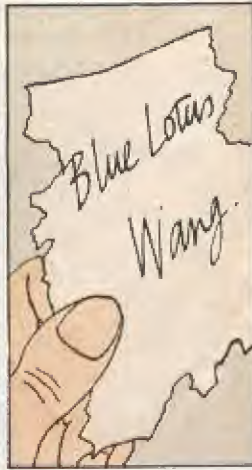
No one!... So far so good...

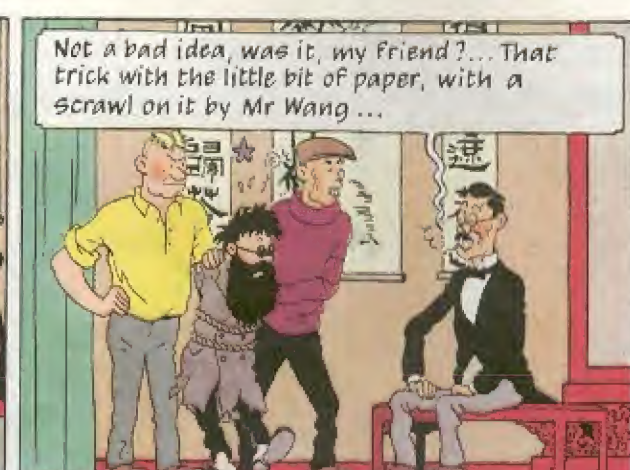
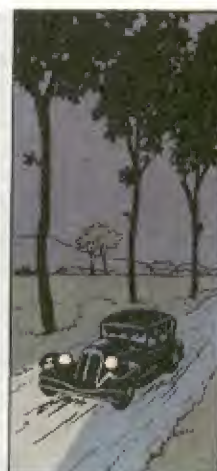


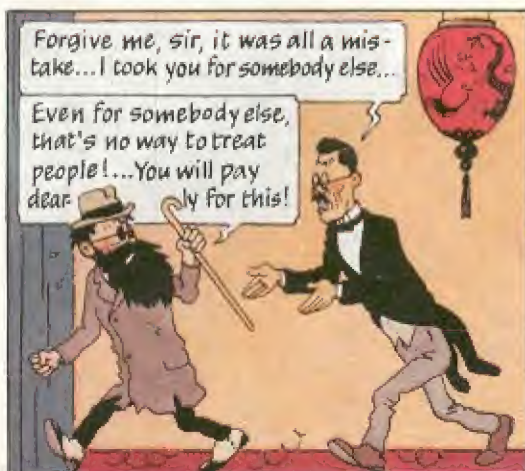
You're sure Tintin is there right now?...

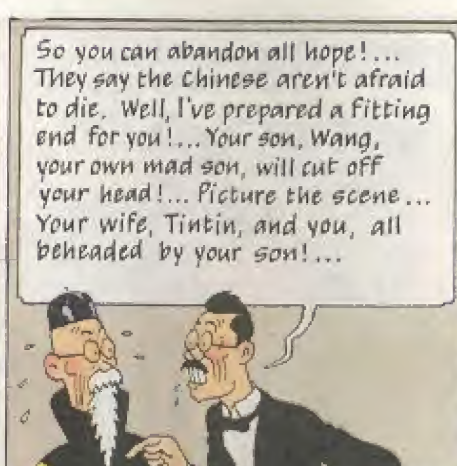


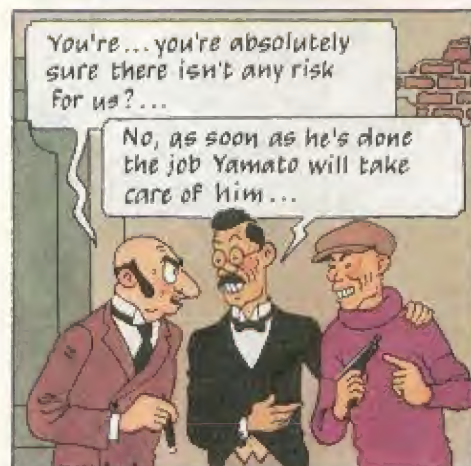
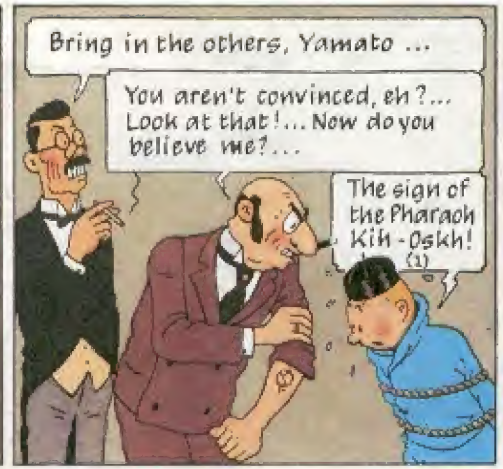
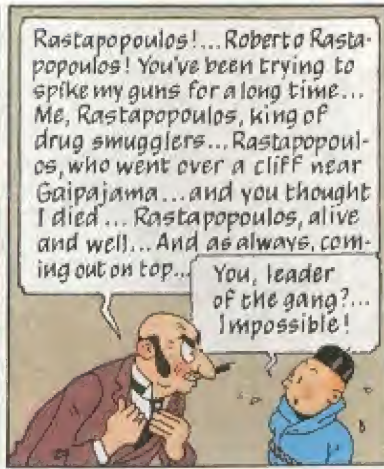












(1) See Cigars of the Pharaoh





SHANGHAI NEWS

上海報

FANG HSI-YING FOUND: Professor Prisoner in Opium Den

SHANGHAI, Wednesday:

Professor Fang Hsi-ying has been found! The good news was flashed to us this morning.

Last week eminent scholar Fang disappeared on his way home from a party given by a friend. Police efforts



Professor Fang Hsi-ying pictured just after his release.

to trace him were unavailing. No clues were found.

Young European reporter Tintin joined in the hunt for the missing man of science. Earlier we reported incidents involving Tintin and the occupying Japanese forces. Secret society Sons of the Dragon aided Tintin in the rescue. Fang Hsi-ying was kidnapped by an international gang of drug smugglers, now all safely in

police custody.

A wireless transmitter was found by police at Blue Lotus opium den. The transmitter was used by the drug smugglers to communicate with their ships on the high seas. Information radioed included sea routes, ports to be avoided, points of embarkation and unloading.

Home of Japanese subject Mitsuhirato was also searched. No comment, say police on reports of seizure of top-secret documents. Unconfirmed rumours suggest the papers concern undercover political activity by a neighbouring power. Speculation mounts that they disclose recent Shanghai-Nanking railway incident as a pretext for extended Japanese occupation. League of Nations officials in Geneva will study the captured documents.

TINTIN'S OWN STORY

This morning, hero of the hour Mr Tintin, talked to us about his adventures.

The young reporter is the guest of Mr Wang Chen-ye at his host's picturesque villa on the Nanking road.

When we called, our hero, young and smiling, greeted us wearing Chinese dress. Could this really be the scourge of the terrible Shanghai gangsters?

After our greetings and congratulations, we asked Mr Tintin to tell us how he succeeded in smashing the most dangerous organisation.

man with an impish smile said:

"You must tell the world it is entirely due to him that my wife, my son and I are alive today!"

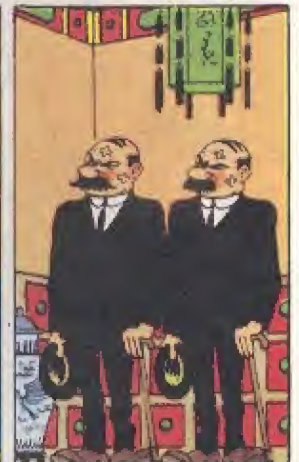
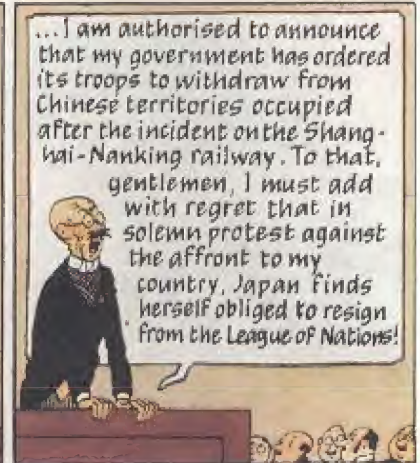
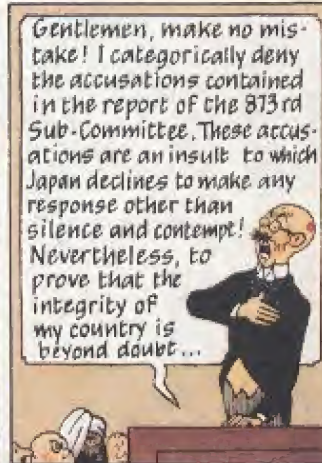
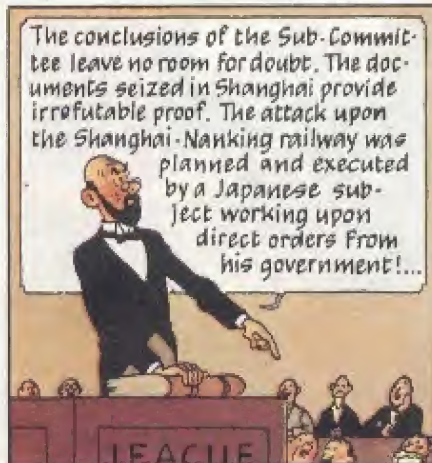
With these words our interview was concluded, and we said farewell to the friendly reporter and his kindly host.

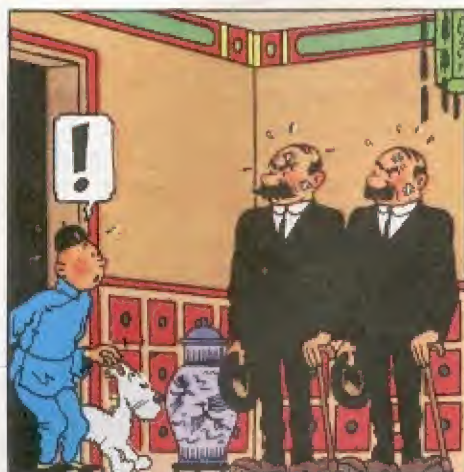
L.G.T.

Tintin, rescuer of Professor Fang Hsi-ying, with Snowy, his faithful companion.

Mr Wang, a tall, elderly, venerable

Young people carry posters of Tintin through Shanghai streets.





Good morning... Er... Here we are at last...

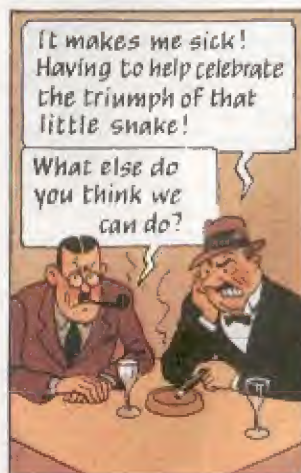
Um... er... So here you are?...

To be precise: good morning. Here we are, last as usual...



Yes, we've come... to offer our congratulations, and to tell you we... we...

We never believed for a minute you were guilty. But what could we do? We had to obey orders...



THE BLUE LOTUS AFFAIR MITSUHIRATO COMMITTS HARA-KIRI

Shanghai, Saturday:
Mr Mitsuhiroto, implicated in the Blue Lotus affair and principal organiser of the attack on the Shanghai Nankin railway



Now it's time to go. We must leave you.



Some days later...

... I raise my glass to your precious health, Tintin. Your courage and nobility have restored happiness to this humble house. Your memory will be engraved upon our hearts as in finest crystal...



There is one who, if such is possible, will miss you even more than I. Chang, who has already known the sadness of losing his parents. Chang, who found in you a brother. If he wishes, he will be my son, the brother of my own poor son to whom our honourable friend Fang Hsi-ying has restored his reason...



What is the matter, Chang?

There is a rainbow in my heart, Venerable Lady... I weep because Tintin is going but the sunshines because I have a new mother and father!



Farewell, noble Tintin. May other friendships lighten your days in your country in the West, and accompany you along the way!



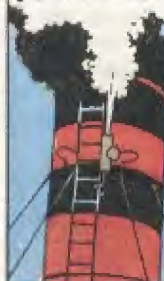
The next morning...

Goodbye, Tintin ... Good luck go with you!

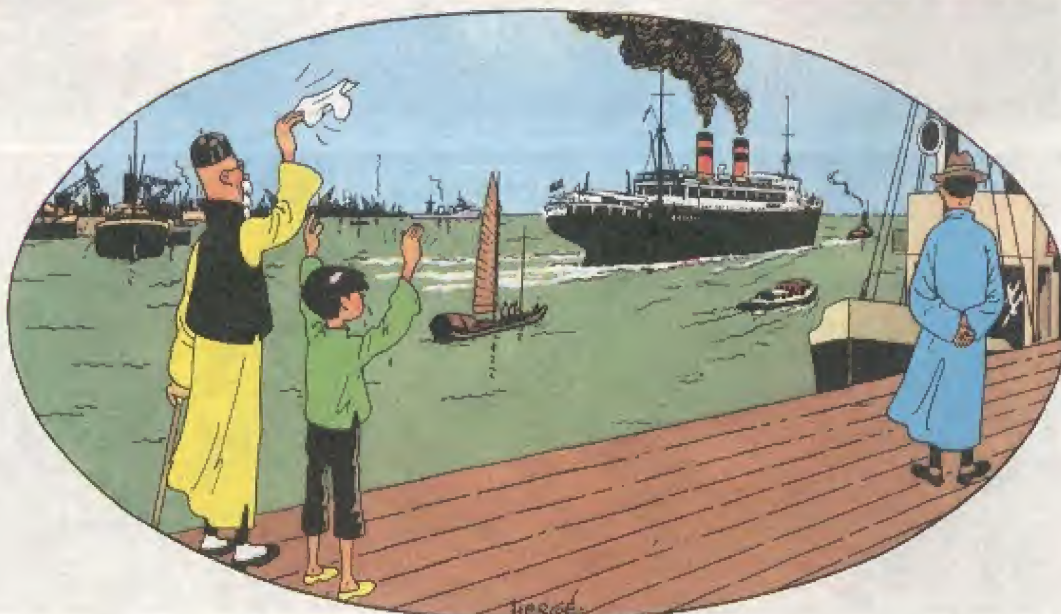
I wish the same for you, Chang! ... Goodbye!



ToooooT



ToooooT



THE ADVENTURES OF
TINTIN

THE BLUE LOTUS



HERGÉ